

a valve body comprising:

a first retainer which houses a first spring, the first retainer engaging the first spring at one end of the first spring and a first disk disposed at another end of said first spring; and

a second retainer located in the same end as the first retainer, disposed opposite to said first retainer, said second retainer houses a second spring, the second retainer engaging the second spring at one end of the second spring, and a second disk disposed at another end of said second spring; and

wherein said second disk is operative to compress said second spring in a first direction toward said second retainer; and

wherein said first disk is operative to compress said first spring in a second direction toward said first retainer, said first direction being opposite to said second direction.

3. (Amended) A fluid filter having two ends comprising:

a housing defining a chamber, said chamber having an inlet at one end through which fluid enters said fluid, and an outlet at another end through which said fluid leaves said filter;

a filter media disposed in said chamber between said inlet and said outlet, for filtering said fluid;

means for allowing a fluid to flow from said inlet to said outlet in a first fluid flow path, through said filter media;

forward flow bypass means for allowing said fluid to flow from said inlet to said outlet in a second fluid flow path, bypassing said filter media; and

reverse flow bypass means disposed adjacent said forward flow bypass means and in the same end of the filter as the forward flow bypass means, for allowing said fluid to flow in a third fluid flow path, bypassing said filter media,

wherein the filter media, the inlet, and the outlet are substantially coaxial.

12. (Twice Amended) A fluid filter having two ends comprising:

a housing defining a chamber, said chamber having an inlet at one end and an outlet at another end, through which fluid passes from said inlet to said outlet, the inlet and outlet configured to be substantially coaxial;

a filter media disposed between said inlet and said outlet, which filters said fluid;

a front valve body having a first retainer housing a first spring, the first retainer engaging the first spring at one end of the first spring, and a first disk disposed at another end of said first spring;

an end cap against which said first disk is seated, said end cap having holes in a periphery of said end cap which are sealed by said first disk, and said end cap having a central aperture;

a rear valve body located in the same end as the front valve body, having a second retainer housing a second spring, the second retainer engaging the second spring at one end of the second spring, and a second disk disposed at another end of said second spring, said second disk sealing said central aperture of said end cap; and

a stabilizing spring disposed between said first retainer and said housing within said chamber, to hold said front valve body stably within said chamber;

wherein said first disk is operative to compress said first spring in a first direction, moving said first disk away from said end cap and opening up said holes in said periphery of said end cap, allowing fluid to pass through said holes and said front valve body to exit said filter, bypassing said filter media; and

wherein said second disk is operative to compress said second spring, to allow said fluid to pass through said central aperture of said end cap from said front valve body, through said rear valve body to exit said filter, bypassing said filter media.

16. (Amended) The filter according to Claim 12, wherein said end cap comprises a central aperture and a plurality of peripheral holes.

19. (Amended) The filter according to Claim 12, wherein said disk is made of plastic.

20. (Amended) The filter according to Claim 12, wherein said retainer, said spring, and said end cap, are made of metal.

21. (NEW) The fluid filter of claim 1, further comprising: an end cap separating said first disk from said second disk.